

### **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. An orthodontic bracket placement device comprising:  
a horizontal bracket engaging means for engaging an orthodontic bracket; and  
a vertical shaft extending from said horizontal bracket engaging means, said shaft including a plurality of indicia for aligning with the incisal edge of a tooth when said bracket placement device is used to place an orthodontic bracket engaged by said engaging means on said tooth, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means forms a junction with said vertical shaft that is off-center of said horizontal bracket engaging means.
2. The device of claim 1, wherein said plurality of indicia comprises lines.
3. The device of claim 2, wherein said lines have at least two different colors.
4. The device of claim 3, wherein said at least two different colors each indicate a different specific vertical placement of said orthodontic bracket on said tooth.
5. The device of claim 1, wherein said plurality of indicia are etched into said shaft.
6. The device of claim 1, wherein said plurality of indicia glow in the dark.
7. The device of claim 1, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is at an angle of between about 70° and about 110° with respect to said vertical shaft.
8. The device of claim 1, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is at an angle of substantially 90° with respect to said vertical shaft.
9. The device of claim 1, further comprising a dental scaler located at an end of the device opposite to a junction formed between said horizontal bracket engaging means and said vertical shaft.

10. The device of claim 1, further comprising a mirror located at an end of the device opposite to a junction formed between said horizontal bracket engaging means and said vertical shaft.
11. The device of claim 1, wherein said device comprises stainless steel.
12. The device of claim 1, wherein said device comprises a polymeric material.
13. The device of claim 1, wherein said device is of unibody construction.
14. The device of claim 1, wherein said plurality of indicia each indicate a different specific vertical placement of said orthodontic bracket on said tooth.
15. The device of claim 14, wherein said plurality of indicia correspond to bracket placements of 3.5mm, 4.0mm, 4.5mm and 5.0mm measured from the incisal edge of said tooth.
16. The device of claim 1, further comprising a stop disposed on said vertical shaft.
17. The device of claim 1, wherein said junction is off-center in the x plane of said horizontal bracket engaging means.
18. The device of claim 1, wherein said junction is off-center in the y plane of said horizontal bracket engaging means.
19. The device of claim 1, further comprising a threaded opening for receiving a dental tool having a coordinated screw, wherein said threaded opening is located at an end of the device opposite to a junction formed between said horizontal bracket engaging means and said vertical shaft.

20. The device of claim 1, further comprising an opening device located at an end of the device opposite to a junction formed between said horizontal bracket engaging means and said vertical shaft.
21. The device of claim 1, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 0.1 to about 0.2 inches in height.
22. The device of claim 1, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 0.16 inches in height.
23. The device of claim 1, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 2 to about 4 mm in width.
24. The device of claim 1, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 5 to about 15 mm in length.
25. The device of claim 1, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 10 mm in length.
26. A method for placing an orthodontic bracket on a tooth comprising:  
placing said orthodontic bracket on said tooth at a particular vertical position on said tooth using a bracket placement device by engaging a horizontal bracket engaging means of said device with a bracket and aligning one of a plurality of indicia on a vertical shaft of said bracket placement device with the incisal edge of said tooth, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means forms a junction with said vertical shaft that is off-center of said horizontal bracket engaging means; and  
adhering said orthodontic bracket to said tooth.
27. The method of claim 26, wherein said plurality of indicia comprises lines.
28. The method of claim 27, wherein said lines have at least two different colors.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein said at least two different colors each indicate a different specific vertical placement of said orthodontic bracket on said tooth.
30. The method of claim 29, wherein one of said at least two different colors corresponds to a color located on said bracket.
31. The method of claim 30, wherein said color located on said bracket is located on a wing of said bracket.
32. The method of claim 31, wherein said wing is the distolingual wing of said bracket.
33. The method of claim 26, wherein said plurality of indicia are etched into a vertical shaft of said device.
34. The method of claim 26, wherein said plurality of indicia glow in the dark.
35. The method of claim 26, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is at an angle of between about 70° and about 110° with respect to a vertical shaft of said device.
36. The method of claim 26, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is at an angle of substantially 90° with respect to a vertical shaft of said device.
37. The method of claim 26, wherein said plurality of indicia each indicate a different specific vertical placement of said orthodontic bracket on said tooth.
38. The method of claim 37, wherein said plurality of indicia correspond to bracket placements of 3.5mm, 4.0mm, 4.5mm and 5.0mm measured from the incisal edge of said tooth.

39. The method of claim 26, further comprising a stop disposed on a vertical shaft of said device.
40. The method of claim 39, wherein said stop is engaged with a region of said device having said plurality of indicia and said stop is aligned with the incisal edge of said tooth.
41. The method of claim 26, wherein said junction is off-center in the x plane of said horizontal bracket engaging means.
42. The method of claim 26, wherein said junction is off-center in the y plane of said horizontal bracket engaging means.
43. The method of claim 26, further comprising a threaded opening for receiving a dental tool having a coordinated screw, wherein said threaded opening is located at an end of the device opposite to a junction formed between said horizontal bracket engaging means and said vertical shaft.
44. The method of claim 26, further comprising an opening device located at an end of the device opposite to a junction formed between said horizontal bracket engaging means and said vertical shaft.
45. The method of claim 44, wherein said opening device is used to open or close a slide operatively engaged with said bracket.
46. The method of claim 26, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 0.1 to about 0.2 inches in height.
47. The method of claim 26, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 0.16 inches in height.

48. The method of claim 26, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 2 to about 4 mm in width.
49. The method of claim 26, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 5 to about 15 mm in length.
50. The method of claim 26, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 10 mm in length.
51. A saleable kit comprising:  
at least one orthodontic bracket placement device comprising a horizontal bracket engaging means for engaging an orthodontic bracket; and a vertical shaft extending from said horizontal bracket engaging means, said shaft including a plurality of indicia for aligning with the incisal edge of a tooth when said bracket placement device is used to place an orthodontic bracket engaged by said engaging means on said tooth, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means forms a junction with said vertical shaft that is off-center of said horizontal bracket engaging means.
52. The kit of claim 51, wherein said kit is sterilized.
53. The kit of claim 51, further comprising at least one bracket.
54. The kit of claim 53, wherein said kit is sterilized.
55. The kit of claim 51, further comprising arch wire.
56. The kit of claim 55, wherein said kit is sterilized.
57. The kit of claim 51, further comprising dental adhesive.
58. The kit of claim 57, wherein said kit is sterilized.

59. The kit of claim 51, wherein said plurality of indicia comprises lines.
60. The kit of claim 59, wherein said lines have at least two different colors.
61. The kit of claim 60, wherein said at least two different colors each indicate a different specific vertical placement of said orthodontic bracket on said tooth.
62. The kit of claim 61, further comprising at least one bracket.
63. The kit of claim 62, wherein one of said at least two different colors corresponds to a color located on said bracket.
64. The kit of claim 63, wherein said color located on said bracket is located on a wing of said bracket.
65. The kit of claim 64, wherein said wing is the distolingual wing of said bracket.
66. The kit of claim 51, wherein said plurality of indicia are etched into said shaft.
67. The kit of claim 51, wherein said plurality of indicia glow in the dark.
68. The kit of claim 51, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is at an angle of between about 70° and about 110° with respect to said vertical shaft.
69. The kit of claim 51, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is at an angle of substantially 90° with respect to said vertical shaft.
70. The kit of claim 51, further comprising a dental scaler located at an end of the device opposite to a junction formed between said horizontal bracket engaging means and said vertical shaft.

71. The kit of claim 51, further comprising a mirror located at an end of the device opposite to a junction formed between said horizontal bracket engaging means and said vertical shaft.
72. The kit of claim 51, wherein said device comprises stainless steel.
73. The kit of claim 51, wherein said device comprises a polymeric material.
74. The kit of claim 51, wherein said device is of unibody construction.
75. The kit of claim 51, wherein said plurality of indicia each indicate a different specific vertical placement of said orthodontic bracket on said tooth.
76. The kit of claim 75, wherein said plurality of indicia correspond to bracket placements of 3.5mm, 4.0mm, 4.5mm and 5.0mm measured from the incisal edge of said tooth.
77. The kit of claim 51, further comprising a stop disposed on said vertical shaft.
78. The kit of claim 51, wherein said junction is off-center in the x plane of said horizontal bracket engaging means.
79. The kit of claim 51, wherein said junction is off-center in the y plane of said horizontal bracket engaging means.
80. The kit of claim 51, further comprising a threaded opening for receiving a dental tool having a coordinated screw, wherein said threaded opening is located at an end of the device opposite to a junction formed between said horizontal bracket engaging means and said vertical shaft.



81. The kit of claim 51, further comprising an opening device located at an end of the device opposite to a junction formed between said horizontal bracket engaging means and said vertical shaft.
82. The kit of claim 51, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 0.1 to about 0.2 inches in height.
83. The kit of claim 51, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 0.16 inches in height.
84. The kit of claim 51, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 2 to about 4 mm in width.
85. The kit of claim 51, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 5 to about 15 mm in length.
86. The kit of claim 51, wherein said horizontal bracket engaging means is about 10 mm in length.